

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Consider this message a "Heads Up" notice. If warranted, DSCP will initiate an ALFOODACT. FYI, I've pasted a copy of the DSCP Vendor Recall Notice below:

SUBJECT: DSCP Vendor Recall 003-2004: Fresh Ground Beef

Date Issued: April 30, 2004,

RECALL NOTIFICATION REPORT
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

PRODUCTS RECALLED: Fresh Ground Beef

PRODUCTION DATES/IDENTIFYING CODES: Produced April 9, 2004. The products subject to recall are 80-pound boxes of:

*"EXCEL, CHUCK GROUND BEEF, 81/19 FINE GRIND, 100% BEEF, 241".

*"EXCEL, 81/19 COARSE GRIND, GROUND BEEF, 100% BEEF, 336".

*"EXCEL, 81/19 FINE GRIND, GROUND BEEF, 100% BEEF, 356".

*"EXCEL, 90/10 FINE GRIND, GROUND BEEF, NOT TO EXCEED 10% FAT, 100% BEEF, 389".

Each box contains eight, 10-pound chubs of ground beef and carry a use/freeze by date of "APR 29." The USDA mark of inspection "Est. 86K," also appears on each box. In addition, each box contains the following lot code, "04100400 0018" or "04100409 0019." Each chub contains the use/freeze by date and the USDA mark of inspection.

PROBLEM/REASON FOR RECALL: The product may be contaminated with *Escherichia coli* O157:H7.

HOW/WHEN DISCOVERED: The problem was discovered during FSIS verification activities.

FEDERAL ESTABLISHMENT: 0086K M

Excel Corporation

East Highway 400

Dodge City, KS 67801

CONSUMER CONTACT: Luke Miller, Manager of Customer Service, 1-800-267-6946

MEDIA CONTACT: Mark Klein, Director of Communications, 952-742-6211

QUANTITY RECALLED: Approximately 45,000 pounds

DISTRIBUTION: Alabama, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Texas

RECALL CLASSIFICATION: Class I

RECALL NOTIFICATION LEVEL: Retail

PRESS RELEASE: Yes

DIRECT NOTIFICATION MEANS: The firm has notified its customers orally and will follow up in writing.

FSIS FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES: Effectiveness checks by the FSIS, Office of Field Operations (OFO).

OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED: None

FSIS CONTACTS:

FSIS Recall Coordinator: (785) 841-5600

Consumer Inquiries: 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854); TTY, 1-800-256-7072

Media Inquiries: 202-720-9113

Congressional Inquiries: 202-720-3897

Recall Management: 202-690-6389

Web site: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/oa/recalls/rec_intr.htm>

DATE OF RECALL MEETING: April 29, 2004

RECALL CASE NUMBER: 014-2004

DSCP INSTRUCTIONS:

(1) Secure in a "Medical Hold" status to provide assurance of no further issue/sale/use of the item.

(2) Return recalled product to manufacturer by way of the vendor representative.

The Point Of Contact for this Vendor Recall notice is CW3 Melinda Strother, Consumer Safety Officer, at DSCP-HS. VOICE, DSN: 444-7746/2911, Commercial (215) 737-7746/2911, or by FAX, DSN: 444-7526, or Commercial, (215) 737-7526.

Very Respectfully,
CW3 Melinda Strother
Consumer Safety Officer, DSCP
Product Services Office
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